officers in States to work in co-ordination with the entertainment industry, as nodal officers.

- During the Budget of 2003-04, audio CDs were exempted from excise duty to do away with the price advantage available to pirated CDs.
- The Public Service Broadcasting Trust has been entrusted with the task of making a film on piracy.
- The Cable Television Networks Regulation Act has been amended in 2000, to prohibit a Cable operator from transmitting or re-transmitting any programme or channel for which the Copyright holder has not granted him a license.
- The Ministry has requested Chief Secretaries of all States to advise District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police to include anti piracy measures in their monthly activity reports.
- In the meeting of the 25th State Information Ministers, piracy emerged as a key concern for most State Governments and some measures were considered in order to deter piracy in the film and music industry.
- This Ministry has also made suggestions for restricting incidence of piracy in the film and music sector while considering the on going amendments to the Copyright Act.
- National Film Development Corporation Ltd. has been commissioned to make spots for running an anti piracy campaign on prominent national and satellite channels. This Ministry has requested industry Associations to persuade films stars to work on this campaign in order to make it an effective one.
- This Ministry is consulting FICCI to explore the possibility of enacting an Optical Disc Law.

Launching of Urdu Channel

54. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to launch an Urdu Channel;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the deadline by which the channel would go on air?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati, a statutory autonomous corporation has informed that they have decided to launch an Urdu Channel in January 2006.

National Judicial Council

†55. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to constitute a National Judicial Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof including its objectives and purposes;

(c) whether consultation with the Hon'ble Supreme Court, Law Commission and the Bar Council of India etc. has been held;

(d) if so, their reaction thereto; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The details for setting up of the National Judicial Council, in consultation with all the state holders, are being worked out.

Bogus voters

56. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports in print media that out of 67 crore voters, 2.5 crore voters are bogus;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.